

THE CAPITOL EAST GAZETTE

Vol. III Nr.12

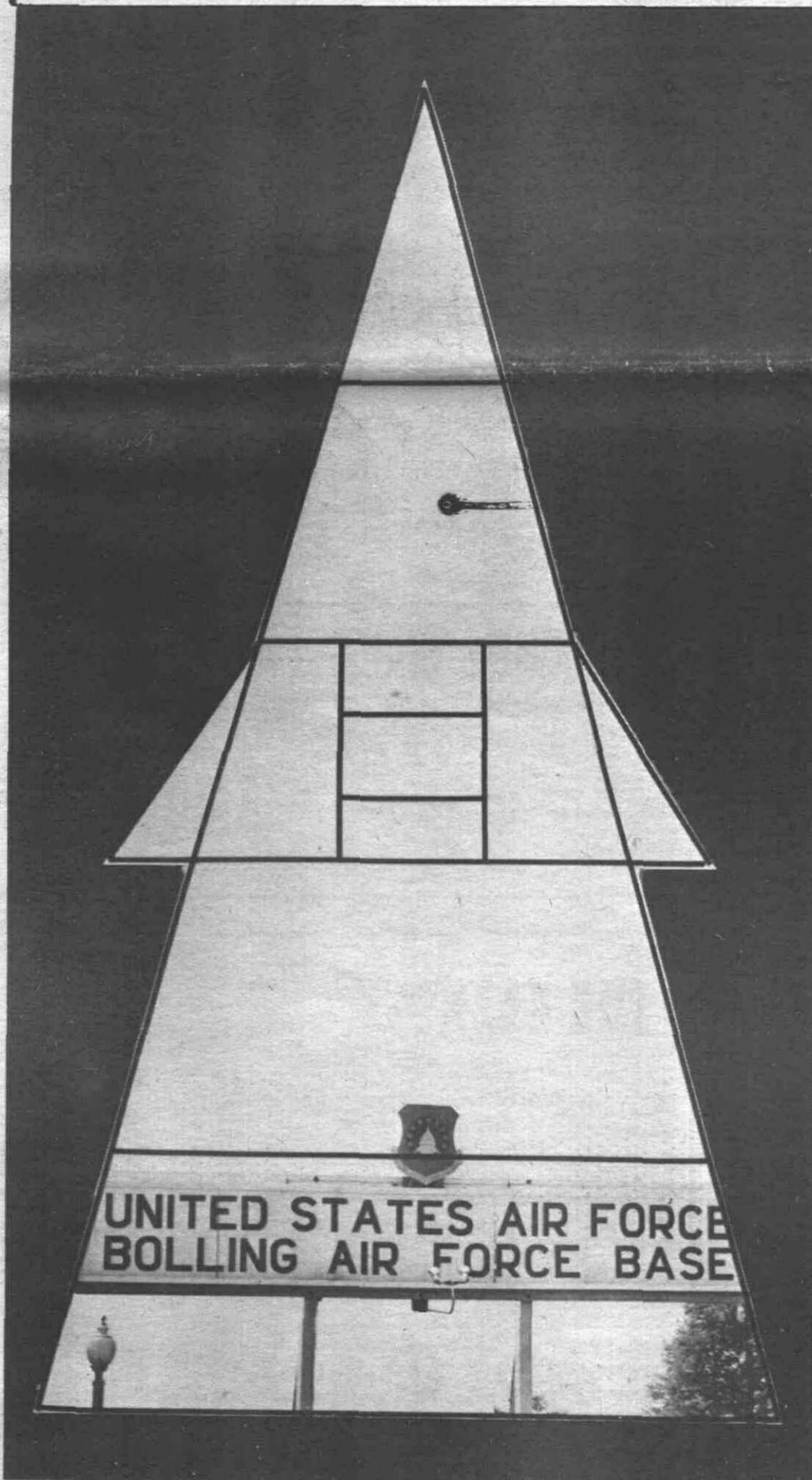
June 1969

Filling the libraries

See page 3

**We shall meet
the enemy. . . .**

The ABM question See page 8



PHOTOS BY ROLAND L. FREEMAN

**. . . .and they may
be us.**

*The Friendship House
question See page 2*

Friendship House

IN the aftermath of a firebombing that seriously damaged a portion of Friendship House, these developments have occurred that indicate a slow, tortuous, but definite change underway at the anti-poverty headquarters:

•The Friendship House Neighborhood Advisory Council has voted to

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press for reforms on the Friendship House board while simultaneously proceeding with the drafting of a proposal for the transfer of the local anti-poverty program from the house to a community corporation. The NAC is moving ahead with the community corporation plan because of the board's refusal to grant community control of the Friendship House program. The NAC last month failed in its bid to win majority control of the Friendship House board. (For comment on the Friendship House situation, see page 6 and page 9).

•The NAC voted overwhelmingly to recommend to the board that FH director Robert Adams not have his contract renewed. It expires June 30. Adams, longtime white director of the house, has been a major subject of controversy. The NAC's action followed on the heels of a meeting of the house staff at which employees voted 19 to 13 in favor of Adams's ouster. Adams told the NAC late last month: "I do intend to leave my job, but not until my job is done. I've been looking for a job. I believe in orderly transfer. I also believe that anyone who thinks all

New moves

the problems will be solved with a new director is fooling himself." Adams has been criticized for administrative practices, problems in relating the house to the black community, the paternalistic attitudes of the house, failure to take on the Capitol Hill real estate interests and failure to inspire the staff.

•The NAC voted to urge its members on the board to select a candidate for board chairman and push him. The elections of board officers -- to be held June 10th at the house -- is traditionally a rather pro forma affair. The NAC also voted to request the board to hold only evening meetings. Currently, half the board meetings are held in the middle of the day, working a serious hardship on many community members who can't take two hours off for lunch.



FRIENDSHIP House board member Mabel Taylor: "It's past time for foolishness. Let the blacks run this program."



NEIGHBORHOOD Advisory Council chairman Jesse Anderson: "No longer are people coming up to the plantation house and saying 'Mas-sa, we're hungry.'"

•The board held an emergency meeting following the firebombing incident. The fire at the house, which started around 2 am, caused damage estimate at between \$60,000 and \$80,000 by Adams. It was begun when a molotov cocktail thrown the window of the first floor office of the building. The board voted to set up a committee to present recommendations at the June 10 meeting concerning an inquiry into the role of Friendship House and the changes that should be made. The board also voted to make future meetings open to the community, overruling board head Harry Van Cleve who said they should be closed. The board made no move at this meeting to change its previous refusal to recognize the need for community control of the house program.

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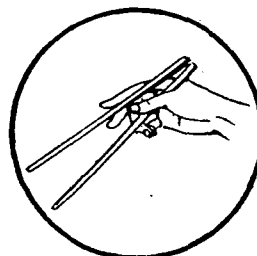


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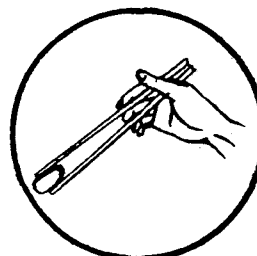
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Libraries

Circulation jumps

IT has been an article of faith in the DC public library system that inner city residents aren't interested in books. As recent articles in the Gazette have shown, this belief has been reflected in gross discrimination in the allocation of book funds throughout the city.

During two hectic weeks last month, the Capitol East Community Organization demonstrated just how wrong the library system's assumption about the inner city is. CECO organized a library card drive, with a contest awarding prizes to the local schools that produced the largest number of new library card-carrying students. During the drive, students were bussed to the Near SE and Near NE public library to get their cards and to check out books. Only one school in Capitol

The response to the drive by the schools, students, and library officials, was, in the words of one member of the CECO committee "fantastic." Staff members at the NE and SE library were highly praised for their assistance during the drive. Additional books and staff were sent from downtown to help with the crush of Capitol East youngsters -- many of whom were getting their first close look at what a public library was all about.

The drive showed how a library could reach out into the community, if enough initiative is taken by those responsible. The initiative in this case came not from the library system, but from the community. The community, in short, showed the library system how to begin serving the community. Hopefully, the lesson will be well digested downtown.

THE Gazette, has, in recent issues, brought to light the gross inequities in the way the DC public library system spends its money and its failure to provide adequate services to the inner city. It has been a middle-class institution catering to a middle class constituency. Capitol East -- along with other predominantly black communities -- has suffered as a result.

Here's one good reason. Six of the system's nine trustees live west of Rock Creek Park. The president of the board, Dr. William W. Atwood (Ward 3), has been on the board since 1933. The vice chairman, Clark G. Diamond, has been on the board since 1946. It is small wonder that the system has been unable to relate to the contemporary needs of the city.

East failed to take part in the drive, and that only because it was running a book program of its own.

As we went to press 8,044 cards had been received by the students, with 6,410 books checked out.

NOTES

CECO'S Capitol East Festival occurred too late in the month to give it the coverage it deserved, but suffice it to say for this month that it was one of the most successful events staged in this neighborhood. . . . WE'VE discovered that the staff at the health clinic at 15th & G NE has been telling DC General not to refer any new patients to the clinic's birth control center during evening and weekend hours. Apparently, the clinic is out to prove that there is no need for these extra hours. . . . THERE'S going to be a new look in this year's 4th of July celebration on the Mall. Among other things, Willie Hardy is vice chairman.



Photo by Howard Greene, DC Public Library
MRS. Joyce Thomas, children's librarian at the Southeast Branch Library, discusses plans for registration drive with co-chairmen of CECO's library committee, William Curtis and Sister Marilyn.



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Southeast Scene

Vicey G. Frazier

ON August 28, 1968, at the March on Washington at the Lincoln Memorial, Benjamin Mayers, the president of Morehouse College, delivered the benediction and he said, "Oh Lord, here we are just like we were one hundred years ago." Here are some of the things he was talking about:

Last month, at the House and Garden Show, the only way residents could take part was to produce three dollars at the white home owner's gate, which in effect excluded the black man through sheer economics. The most interesting thing about the House and Garden Show is that the Restoration Society has a few so-called big Negroes participating like Mr. Shirley Oliva Brown, former assistant principal at Eastern High School.

Also last month, Sarah Montgomery, of the South East Civic Assn., delivered petitions presumably written by the Restoration Society (and James Hodgson?) to Eastern High School and Eliot Junior High School promoting a \$5.4 million recreation center at 15th & E. Capitol Sts. -- the old carbarn. This sounds excellent to the average student and uninformed person who doesn't know that CECO has organized 76 Black businessmen who stand ready to develop this carbarn into a multi-million dollar black-owned and operated shopping

center. Don't you see what this does to a future all-white Capitol Hill restoration program that is working tenaciously to make certain that black people are systematically moved out?

Aunt Sarah is an old fighter. During those feverishly hectic days when a proposal was being worked on that would federally assist people of lower income (Black) to renovate (I shudder to use the word "restore") their homes, Mrs. Montgomery's name was overlooked when the call went out for interested "community-conscious" people. Not only didn't she hear from the Capitol East Citizens for Good Code Enforcement, but she missed commentaries from the three city newspapers, also the radio and television stations. This was all assumed until it was brought to my attention that not only had this citizen refused to accept the co-chairmanship that was offered her, but has started an effort to put a halt to this program.

Let's face it, Brothers and Sisters. Capitol East is our community and our homes are in bad shape. If we want to beat the Restoration Society at its own game, we're going to have to work to do it. Nobody is going to give us anything. In fact, I don't want any gifts. "Open up the door, I'll get it myself." The door is opening, and through it may

come a program that will enable us to better our homes or a "Devil's" message. You can recognize that right away. That is a message one hundred years old. A tale of back-biting and distrust. It comes from those who are very prim and proper and generally from the school that taught them, "White is Right and Black get Back."

It is time for us to unite and remind each other that we need everybody. May I take this opportunity to remind you in the form of a very appropriate bit of poetry:

SOMETIME

Sometime when you are feeling important,
Sometime when you ego's in bloom,
Sometime when you take it for granted
You're the best qualified in the room,
Sometime when you feel that your going,
Would leave an unfillable hole, just
follow this simple instruction,
And see how it humbles your soul:
Take a pail and fill it with water,
Put your hand in it, up to your wrist,
Pull it out and the hole remaining,
Is a measure of how you'll be missed.
You may splash all you please when you enter,
You can stir up the water galore,
But stop and you will find in a minute,
That it looks quite the same as before.
The moral in this great example, is do
just the best that you can,
Be proud of yourself and remember,
there's no indispensable man.

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Northeast Now

DOES unity exist anywhere in the District of Columbia? There is a very little bit of it among the black communities in the District. The Near Northeast area is seriously in need of unity, the kind of unity that will benefit the entire Northeast area.

It's a very strange thing. When plans are brought to this area that will help the people living here, there is always those faithful few who will turn out to meetings and stop the plans until they have had a chance to see if they will improve their circumstances any.

These are black people who keep up with the news and are completely satisfied if they are not going to be seriously or mildly affected by a plan or program. If they are going to be affected at all they are ready to stop everything. They don't care if the program will benefit the majority of the people. These few people are always supposed to be representing the community.

I am very much in doubt about this because if you were to make a door-to-door survey in the area, making sure that you talked to some adult in every house in the area, you would learn that most of the people in the Near Northeast feel that any improvement now would be better than none.

It has really become a problem when a few selfish people in the community will always come to meetings and pretend to represent the community. They are able to succeed in making it look as though the rest of the community could care less about what happens in their neighborhood. Their famous expression is: "The rest of the people must not care because if they did, they would be here tonight."

The truth of the matter is that one-half of the time the people are not notified of the meeting, or they are notified one day before or a few hours before. They refuse to accept the many legitimate human reasons why others are not at the meeting.

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Everyone must stop now and ask themselves what they can do to help their community. Talk with your neighbors about what you would like to see done. Also talk to them about what they would like to see happening.

The expression, "I really don't care what happens because they are going to do what they want to do anyway," is no longer true.

Once upon a time the government officials and city councilmen did not have the time to come to the community and give the people an opportunity to voice their opinions of their plans or programs. However, because of the riots and the Black Power thrust and the racial revolution, they are thinking that maybe they have been wrong. So they now ask you to approve plans before they are put into effect. No improvements are really being made. I hope you can see why.

All persons reading this article stop now and ask yourself why you have not been out to speak for your community. You have to be the one to put a stop to the selfish few that manage to stop progress. Your voice can no longer be silent, but you must let your

Schools

FOR the first time, local schools are taking a hand in planning their own budgets.

It was clear at the most recent Ward 6 meeting with School Board representative Marty Swaim that the bugs hadn't been worked out of the system.

Twenty-six persons (including principals, PTA officers, and a few teachers and parents) meeting at Peabody School all agreed they disagreed how the complicated forms were to be filled out.

Some were told by analysts from the school system's budget department that requests were to be listed by priority on the last page of the forms--others were not. As a result they found it impossible to determine whether they agreed on some general priorities for the schools of the ward.

Mrs. Swaim pointed out that the system was an effort by the budget office to get away from past figures and find out, regardless of political possibilities, how much it would cost to adequately fund existing basic programs as well as innovative new ones.

"The basic problem with this school

Ernestine Blackwell

thoughts be known publicly in order that progress can be made evident to you. Those of you who have been selfishly thinking only of yourself, come out of that bag for once, and stop pretending that you represent the community known as the Near Northeast, and admit the truth of the matter that you only represent yourself.

When the riot broke out in D. C. almost 75% of the people participated in the event one way or another. Why? If you are not sure, even at this late date as to the real purpose of the riots, then don't wait a day longer to find out.

For the other 25% of the people that found themselves too shocked to participate in the riots, maybe you also need to know the real reason behind it. See some of the good as well as the bad about the riots. Then you join the other 75% of people and help make the results of the riots a beautiful thing for the human eye to see and enjoy. Not only for the eyes to see but for you as an individual and also for your family to enjoy.

This will start to bring about complete community unity.

Budget headaches

system is a lack of people who think big," she said.

(Please turn to page 15)

Housing

Marine Invasion

THE US Marine Corps has begun a quiet invasion of Near SE. The Marines are asking Congress to give them an authorization to acquire two blocks of I St. immediately south of the Marine Barracks, between 8th and 10th. The Corps says it wants the land for expanded messing and barracks facilities, but there are rumors that the space wouldn't be needed if the Marines did not plan to make the present barracks into a museum and showplace. The National Capital Planning Commission has already given its approval to the move. The plan, uncovered last month, has angered several community groups, among them the Capitol East Housing Council. Preliminary surveys indicate that perhaps as many as 100 children live on the two blocks in question. Says a NCPC official: "Admittedly it will take some homes, but they (the Marines) have to expand somewhere."

Crime

Big drop

CRIME in Capitol East has been cut by more than one-third in the last six months. One of the most impressive results in a general citywide reduction in crime has been in the 9th Precinct where crime is down 37% from last fall. The 9th has more than halved the number of armed robberies within its boundaries. Crime in the 9th Precinct has been dropping since last May. Citywide there has been a 20% drop since fall.

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Your newspaper is rendering a real publicity service not only to the residents of your area but to the city of Washington.

We hope that you will continue this tradition in the future.

Richard A. Terrell
Assistant Director
City-Wide Division
Department of Recreation.

Ruined city

AFTER reading the May issue I agree with the writer of the letter headed "Disgusted." The writer --an American Negro -- deserves a medal for intelligence and for telling the truth.

He said the stupid ramblings of your paper are disgusting.

The radicals, the hippies, the hoodlums and the so-called smart set have ruined our city. Anyone with common sense knows they don't have the sense a jackass was given at birth.

An Old Timer

Huh?

WELL, dear Sirs, when possible I will be very obliged you for your kindness of intermediation via your magazine (or passing on to other organizations), my offer of giving accomodation here in Czechoslovakia in world-famous spa resort Piestany (for rheumatics etc.) in big fruit garden with bungalow for possible perspective accomodation (one person) in U. S. A. in any area.

Dear Sirs, the situation is many years not so rosy allowing us going although only for petty trip to U. S. A. when such an exchange accomodation possibilities can be reality, the good things will be forwarded on.

I take the liberty wish you all best in your business and health.

Milos Kachnic
Bratislava, Czechoslovak Soc. Rep.

THE GAZETTE welcomes letters to the editor. Please send them c/o Letter Column, Capitol East Gazette, 109 8th St. NE, Washington DC 20002, to reach this office prior to the 20th of the month.

THE Friendship House board, meeting in the aftermath of last month's firebombing, lifted itself out of its normal torpor long enough to make two decisions:

(1) Future meetings of the board shall be open. (Members of the community and the press were ordered to leave the two meetings prior to the fire-bombing incident.)

(2) A committee was appointed to develop the scope of an inquiry into the role of Friendship House and how it should fulfill this role. The committee will report to the board at a June 10 meeting.

We suppose that if one finds someone lying on the ground, presumably dead, and then suddenly detects a heart beat, it is somewhat ungrateful to complain. Still, given the up-tight situation this community finds itself today, mere palpitation is hardly enough.

It is essential that evidence be given of a capability for constructive action.

It is long past the time when a body such as the Friendship House board, having permitted matters to disintegrate as much as they have, can get away with merely resolving to study the matter. Too

What could be done

often, study committees are the graveyard of progress.

Certainly study is necessary. But such a study must be concurrent with change and not in place of change. And there are at least four major changes that could be made at the board's June 10 meeting, without need for further study. The board's willingness to make them will be a good test of how much that body has learned over the past couple of months. These changes are:

(1) Expansion of the board's membership to include a majority of members picked by the community.

(2) The election of a black community resident as chairman of the board.

(3) The granting of majority control of the important committees --such as the executive committee -- to community board members.

(4) A decision by the board not to renew the contract of the present executive director.

The facts are on the table. No study is needed of these questions. Either the commitment is there or it isn't. We'll find out.

The price of not seeing

Hill. About a dozen persons took part. The restoration tour costs three dollars a head. The slum tour was free.

Which shows the price people are willing to pay not to see what's happening.

Home rule flim-flam

We know it looks as if we will never get it.

Because of the support in Congress for the charter commission idea, many are willing to say, "What the hell, it's the best we can get."

But this is precisely what the people who are opposed to true self-government want us to say. They've found a way to delay home rule again, and they're making the most of it.

Perhaps the charter commission will come up with a good home rule bill and perhaps Congress will pass it.

But the odds are against this. The Nixon plan is too perfect a set-up for just one more home rule flim-flam.

Guest Comment

Senator Stephen Young

THE Architect of the Capitol has struck again. In the proposed legislative budget for fiscal year 1970, there is a \$1,250,000 request for the acquisition of a 95,000 square foot parcel of urban property, the site of the old Providence Hospital, to be used as the site of a new headquarters for the Capitol Police force. Mind you, this is merely for the land and does not include the cost of the marble monstrosity that J. George Stewart, the Architect of the Capitol, who is in fact not an architect, plans to build on it following its purchase at the extravagant price.

This proposal is the most recent of a string of absurd follies recommended by Mr. Stewart. The fact

is that the Capitol Police force does not need a building of its own, costing untold millions of dollars.

Our police force is already provided with numerous rooms in the Capitol and throughout the office buildings of the Senate and the House of Representatives. This proposal to spend millions of taxpayer's dollars is especially revolting at a time when thousands of Americans, many of them children, are living in slums, hungry, undernourished, and ill-clothed only a few blocks from the Capitol.

The absurdity of this proposal is compounded by the choice of the site requested. It is located between D, E, Second and Third Sts. in SE

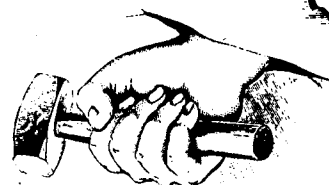
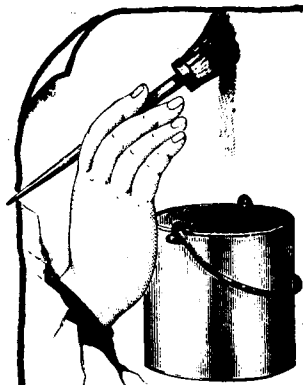
Washington -- four very long blocks from the closest entrance to the Cannon House Office Building and a much longer distance to the furthest side of the Rayburn Building. The proposed "police academy" would also include classrooms, assembly halls, and physical development facilities for the Capitol Police force which is composed in large part of young men attending colleges and universities in the Washington area. Just what we need. Physical development facilities -- in other words, a gymnasium -- when adequate funds cannot be found for needed playgrounds and recreational facilities for the thousands of underprivileged youngsters crowded in the slums of Washington, D. C.

Assuming that this boondoggle were permitted, it would take about 10 minutes in traffic for our policemen to arrive at a Senate office building in event of an emergency, longer if they were enjoying the swimming privileges of the "physical development facilities."

If the old adage, "Experience keeps a dear school, but fools learn in no other," has any meaning, then it would be sheer folly to follow this most recent of Stewart's recommendations. His proposal to spend more than a million dollars of taxpayer's money for land for a building to house the Capitol Police force should be allowed to die unwept, unhonored and unsung.

(From a Senate speech)

EVENTS



*ABM hearings start June 4th
at 10 am in the District Building, Room 500*

SQUARE DANCE

CIRCLE -ON-THE-HILL holds a square dance at St. Mark's Church, 3rd & A SE, on June 6 at 8 pm. \$2 a couple with a cash beer bar.

BAZAAR

BAZAAR and bake sale. Douglas Memorial Church, 11th & H NE, on May 30 and 31. Sponsored by the Wide Awake Senior Citizen Group. Handmade items. White elephant sale.

MEETINGS

HERE'S a listing of the usual meeting dates and places for Capitol East civic groups:

FRIENDSHIP House Neighborhood Advisory Council. 4th Monday. Friendship House, 619 D SE.

CAPITOL Hill Community Council. 3rd Wednesday at St. Cecilia's School, 6th & E, Capitol Sts.

CAPITOL Hill Action Group. Various places on call. Information: 546-3162.

CAPITOL East Housing Council. Various places on call. Information: 544-0523.

CAPITOL Hill Restoration Society. 2nd Monday. Capitol Hill Presbyterian Church, 4th & Ind. Ave. SE.

NEAR NE Citizens Advisory Council. 1st and 3rd Thursday at 8 pm. Call 547-7200 for location.

MUSIC

CONCERT of sacred music at the 19th St. Baptist Church on June 8 at 5 pm. This is a benefit for Camp Friendship. Featured soloist will be Melda Ormand. Miss Ormand is presently a student at Julliard. There will be a printed list of patrons who have bought \$2 seats. General admission will be \$1 and youth admission will be 50¢. To buy tickets send a check payable to Circle-on-the-Hill to Mrs. Fred Regetz, 917 G SE.

ART SHOWS

PAINTINGS and graphics by Pupp at the Lunn Gallery, 212 7th SE, through June 16.

GALLERY deGaines, 411 East Capitol St., features 12 member artists June 19-30. There will be a garden reception beginning at 8 pm on June 19.

SUMMER SCHOOL

THIS July the Church of the Reformation, 212 East Capitol St., will conduct a vacation church school for children ranging from pre-school age through the 7th grade. Beginning on July 8 the program will run for three weeks on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, from 9:30 am to noon. For further information and registration contact the church office at LI 3-4200 or LI 3-5455.

DRAMA



Photo by Patricia Smith Fox

THE Back Alley Theatre presents "Sir Percival and the Hydra" an original musical for children on Saturdays and Sundays through June 15. Showtimes are 3 pm and 4:30 pm. The musical is for children of all ages. Group rates are available. For reservations call 543-1156 or 332-5942. The Back Alley Theatre is located at the Church of the Reformation, 212 E. Capitol St.

"THE Ballad of the Black Dragon" -- a dramatic presentation of the life of Frederick Douglass, written by Jay Williams -- will be performed at the History and Technology Museum starting June 28. The performances will help to raise money for the restoration of the Anacostia home of Douglass. Tickets will be on sale at Unity House, 1015 N. C. Ave. SE. Information: 931-6843.

RFK STADIUM DAY



SENATOR Edward Kennedy will be the featured speaker at the dedication of Robert F. Kennedy Stadium on June 7. Dedication ceremonies get underway at 3 p. m. Senator Kennedy's appearance will be part of day-long free events aimed especially at children, in whose problems the senator's late brother was particularly interested. There will be free sports clinics beginning at 11:30 am led by leading national sports figures at the following playgrounds: Watkins, 12th & E SE; Rosedale, 17th & Gales NE; Sherwood, 10th & G NE; and Greenleaf, 2nd & M SW. Following the clinics, free busses will be provided to take children to the stadium for an afternoon of entertainment. Included will be a demonstration of physical fitness by the public school system; the Sports Illustrated sports show featuring a boxing demonstration by Bobby Foster and a trick golfing demonstration. Children who attend the morning clinics will be given free tickets for hot dogs and sodas. Admission to the stadium is free.

DO
YOUR
THING

Join the
FRIENDSHIP HOUSE COMMUNITY
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
520 8th St. SE 543-5430

Gee, a missile site of our very own?

*And if the radiation kills
the flowers at the Arboretum
we can build housing there*

LAST month, the ABM issue came home.

A Pentagon spokesman announced that Bolling field was one of five possible ABM sites being considered for the Washington area.







That anonymous voice from the five-sided headquarters of the military - industrial complex did the citizens of the area an unintended service. For up to that point the leadership of the City Council had insisted on contending that the ABM issue was not a local one. The Council couldn't hold hearings on the subject, said Council vice chairman Sterling Tucker, because "we can't hold hearings on everything."

It was an silly contention. Washington is the only city in the country slated to be given an ABM site. If the ABM program was as bad as its numerous critics said it was, then it was as important a local issue as any that has come along. There is strong evidence that suggests that one reason the government dropped its plans to provide ABM protection for other cities, was that the ABM had proved to be rather unpopular politically in those other cities. In the colony of Washington, however, it is far easier to override the public will.

It was natural that residents of the District should look to the City Council for help in this matter. But for the Council it was one thing to take on O. Roy Chalk or the cement lobby, another to take on Richard Nixon. The Council was not ready to tell the President his defense plans were awry. It dutifully and silently fell in behind the Administration by attempting to avoid the issue altogether.

Whatever points the Council may have earned at the White House, it earned few within the District. And when the Pentagon casually mentioned Bolling -- within DC's boundaries -- as a possible site, what had previously appeared silly now seemed absurd. Even Gilbert Hahn said it made a difference and he

Teacher

<p>Ten forty-three. In exactly TWO MINUTES I'll ring the FIRST BELL and they'll all stand still!</p>  <p>Because when they've learned not to question the FIRST BELL, they'll learn not to question their TEXTS! Their TEACHERS! Their COURSES! EXAMINATIONS!</p> 	<p>All, that is, except your potential DEVIATE! Your fledgling REBEL! Your incipient BOAT- ROCKER! THEY'LL try to move all right! THEY'LL have to learn the HARD way not to move!</p>  <p>They'll grow up to accept TAXES! HOUSING DEVELOP- MENTS! INSURANCE! WAR! MEN ON THE MOON! LIQUOR! LAWS! POLITICAL SPEECHES! PARKING METERS! TELEVISION! FUNERALS!</p> 	<p>So I'll SCREAM at 'em and take their NAMES and give them FIVE DETENTIONS and EXTRA HOMEWORK! NEXT time they won't move after the first bell!</p>  <p>Non-movement after the first bell is the backbone of Western Civilization!</p> 
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Something Else/ LNS

was going to find out whether it really was true. Joseph Yeldell began looking for some way out of the hole the Council had dug for itself. And other councilmen gave signs of being willing to come out for public hearings.

The anti-ABMers, meanwhile, had gone ahead and scheduled their own hearings, which begin June 4th at 10 am in the District building, using an impressive panel in lieu of the Council. (Please turn to page 11)

VISUAL LINK BETWEEN ANACOSTIA AND THE MONUMENTAL CORE.—The fine views from Anacostia should be preserved and the obsolete airfields should be developed as a new residential community.



Wishful thinking

Four years ago, the National Capital Planning Commission expressed these thoughts in its proposed 1985 plan. Back to the drawing boards, gentlemen.

Charles McDowell Jr.

Good \$1000 seats

THERE is a profound force that sustains optimism in Washington--the Redskins football team.

Washington always has rallied around the Redskins, although they regularly rewarded their believers by losing more games than they won. Loyalty became hysteria last February when the Redskins hired Vince Lombardi of Green Bay to come to Washington and perform miracles as head man of our heroes.

The miracles are assumed. The question is how to get a seat in Robert F. Kennedy Stadium next fall to see them occur. The following classified ad is typical of a number that have appeared in the Washington Post:

WILL BUY: 2 Redskin season tickets plus rights. Will pay good price. 966-2484.

The man who placed that ad told an inquiring reporter that he promptly received an offer of two season tickets for \$800. The box-office price of a season ticket to the seven regular-season games is \$42.

Sellers also have been placing ads. Here is one that offered a particularly good pair of seats:

TWO REDSKIN tickets. 40-yard line, upper deck. Call Jacksonville, NC, 919-346-3745.

John Steen, Washington correspondent and resident Redskin fan for the Tampa Tribune, called the number and learned that the advertiser in North Carolina had turned down an offer of \$1,300 for his two tickets. A later check indicated the man had turned down \$1,700 and was holding out for more.

Steen himself owns two season tickets just beyond the goal line, and he was thinking of trading up into better position. The market for seats like his seems to be in the range of \$800 to \$1,000, and he is trading as carefully as prudent men in high finance should.

There has been a gray market in Redskin season tickets for several years, and Lombardi obviously represents a tremendous inflationary pressure.



Holders of season tickets traditionally have "rights." They get first crack at the new season tickets every year before there is any sale to the ordinary public. When the deadline came on March 15 this year, the Redskins had achieved "100 per cent renewals" and a sell-out.

They sold about 47,000 season tickets to people with "rights," leav-

ing a few thousand for each visiting team to sell to traveling rooters, and for guests of the players, band and management.

Until recent years demand for season tickets was modest and holders of "rights" gradually moved to the best seats. Willard Edwards of the Chicago Tribune bought season tickets when the Redskins opened in Washington in 1937 and soon acquired 50-yard-line seats. But once when he was traveling, his wife missed the renewal deadline and the Edwardses lost 15 years' seniority.



It caused considerable domestic tension at the time, he says, but now the Edwardses have worked their way back to the prime position while mighty men of government, who lack seniority at the Redskins' box office, scramble for seats in the end zone.

Newcomers to influential positions in Washington -- and a lot of those come in with President Nixon -- have trouble understanding the difficulty about getting seats for the Redskins. In most cases, however, the system is bigger than politics.

A Redskin official says the publication of an obituary of a season ticket holder very often brings immediate inquiries about his football seats. But the callers seem to expect that the deceased will have passed them along as part of his estate.

Redskin fans accept the system. We know a U.S. senator who managed to get two end-zone seats last year. He was driven to a couple of games by a friend's chauffeur who felt no need to apologize for going on to his own seat near the center of the stands.

Currently pending in Fairfax Circuit Court is a suit brought by three Redskin fans against a fourth, a former friend who acquired four season tickets for the group in 1965. But he registered all four season tickets in his own name, and now, in 1969, the first year of Lombardi, the other three say he refuses to let them have their tickets.

The cruelly dispossessed plaintiff's demand their three tickets at \$42 per set and \$5,000 in punitive damages. The case will come to trial soon in Fairfax unless the judge grants a change of venue on the theory that the defendant could not get a fair trial anywhere around here.

Admittedly the system is rough on newcomers to Washington. It may be good for their character to learn that political power does not bring power to buy Redskin tickets, but still there are important constituents who expect to be taken to a game.

The politicians do learn that there is a source besides the box office and the gray market. That source is the lobbyists. They have been part of the

system for a long time, and they have cornered some season tickets.

"Getting government contracts is important," an old Capitol hand said the other day, "but no self-respecting outfit would have a lobbyist who couldn't also come up with a couple of Redskin tickets."

(Richmond Times-Dispatch)



Early Today

IN the early hours of a May morning, two molotov cocktails were thrown through a window of Friendship House, headquarters of the Near SE anti-poverty program. The resulting fire did serious damage to the building and its contents. More significantly, it raised once again the question of whether community efforts to solve community problems are not ultimately futile if the city and the nation refuse to deal with the greater crises to which this neighborhood -- like hundreds of other urban neighborhoods -- are hostage.

"You work like hell, and this is what happens," said Thornell Page, assistant director of Friendship House, as he helped to shovel out the debris.

In communities across the nation people are working like hell. But it is doing little good. This country won't be saved in a community center, a storefront action headquarters, or a small meeting where a handful of people struggle helplessly to magnify the impact of their concern. Unless -- and it is a massive unless -- change occurs.

The change must come where the power is -- from the Friendship House board to the District Building to the Congress to the White House. All along the line.

For political militants, the ability to lead the forces of change is tenuous at best. Their only credentials are the power to produce change. If they falter, if they move against the status quo and are rebuffed, then the non-political militants step in and the revolution moves from the meeting hall to the streets. That is what happened in Washington last April. That is what is happening in Capitol East today.

The Gazette, along with many others in the community, has repeatedly attempted to outline the seriousness of the situation. We discovered, in the course of investigating the Friendship House incident, that there have been three to four dozen fires started in the city over the past six months by molotov cocktails. These incidents have not been reported in the daily press. Since the embers of last April's fires apparently cooled, the press has -- either deliberately or through ignorance -- underestimated the anger and frustration boiling in the heart of this city. The city is not recovering; it is getting worse.

It has seemed logical that the course the anger would take would not be one of simple self-repetition. The city has discovered enough mechanisms for coping with an open rebellion such as that of last April to make almost inevitable a change in the tactics of rebellion.

TRAIL-BLAZE A NEW DESTINY!



The events of the past months appear to be bearing this out. The stockpiling of weapons in this city is going on -- from all appearances -- at a formidable rate. The nature of the battle is demonstrably becoming more explosive.

And as it does, it is becoming increasingly difficult for even the most militant politically-oriented leadership to maintain any control of the situation.

But if there is any hope for change without calamity, it is dependent upon the clear and rapid achievement of power by this leadership. It is the cruellest form of self-delusion on the part of the city establishment to blame this leadership for the deterioration of the situation.

The Washington Post's story on the firebombing is a case in point:

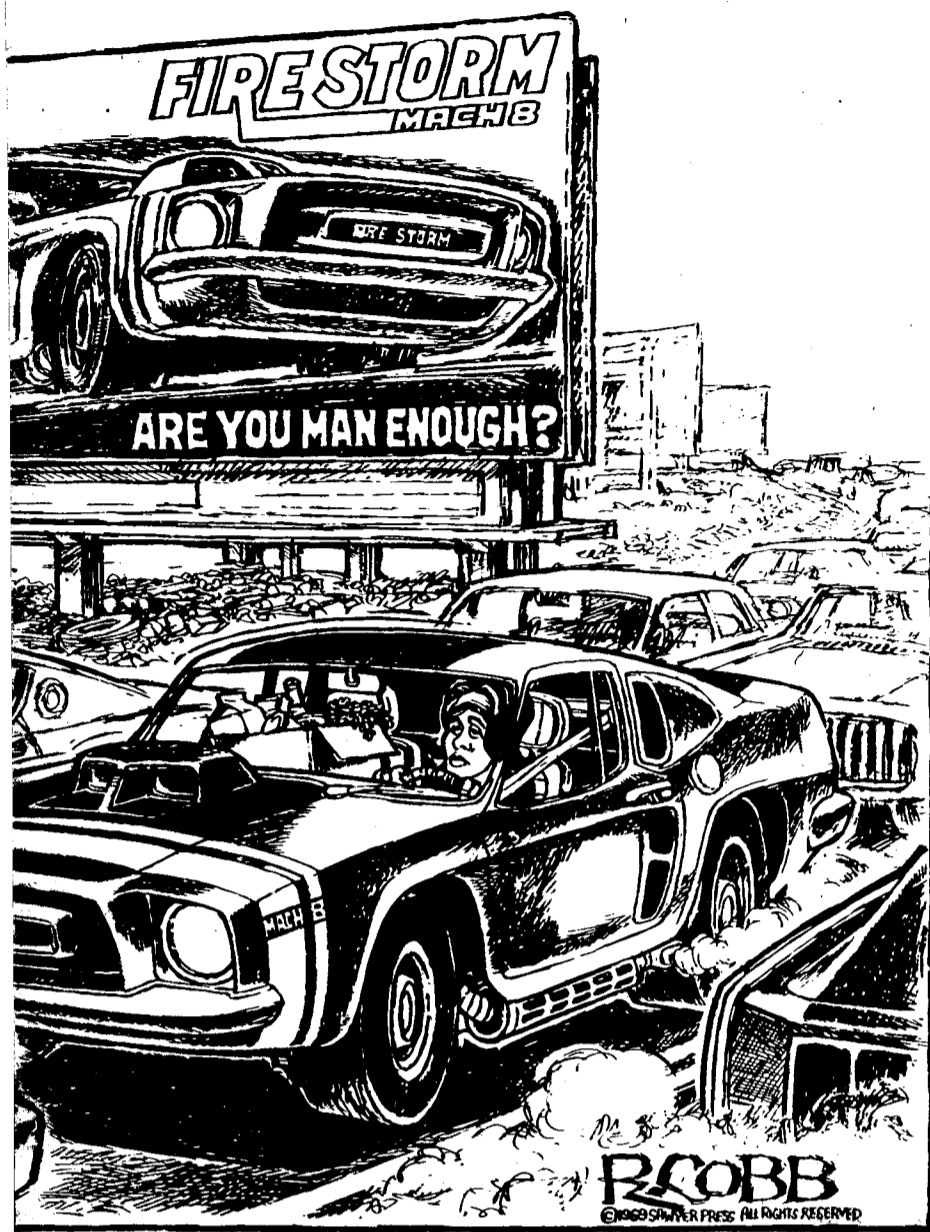
"Friendship House Settlement House, 619 D St. SE, a center for the city's anti-poverty program on Capitol Hill, was heavily damaged by a fire bomb yesterday.

"The fire-bombing came some 12 hours after the center's annual board election, in which a neighborhood group was defeated in an attempt to win community control over the poverty program there.

"Fire officials said they were probing the possibility of a link between the wrangle and the blaze."

The clear insinuation contained in these first three paragraphs was that since a neighborhood group -- the NAC -- had failed to obtain a political goal, it had bombed Friendship House. This is a vicious insinuation that flies in the face of the evidence.

The fact is that the NAC has been attempting over the past weeks to obtain community control of the Friend-



ship House board through a variety of legal and entirely proper means. The NAC has recognized that unless Friendship House is run by the community, it can no longer operate effectively in the community. As the events of last month indicate, the NAC may have waited too long and moved too mildly to achieve reform.

The meeting at which the Friendship House board voted to perpetuate itself last month -- rejecting all but two of NAC's nine choices that would have given it majority control -- was held behind closed doors with both the community and the press excluded. This decision symbolized how out of touch the board was with the community that it thought it could properly exclude the community at a time when it was selecting the people who would run a half-million dollar program in the community.

The NAC, in the eventuality of defeat in the board elections, was prepared to seek transfer of control of the local antipoverty program to a community corporation it has established. Again, it proposed to move in a most legal and proper fashion.

To cast a cloud over such a group as the Post story did is not only a disservice to the community. It also hastens the day when the status quo that the Post so assiduously protects will be rent -- not by political change -- but by violent explosion. If groups such as the NAC can not achieve change quickly all across the country, then others will surely find them irrelevant and attempt to shape change their own way. If there is any correlation between the firebombing of Friendship House and the dispute over the Friendship House board, then this is it.

The Swampoodle Report!

Hi there, boys and girls. Get out your magic decoder rings and dial as follows: Left to A, right to B, left again to M. Now what do you have? Not much, but you've spent \$11 billion. Don't you feel safe?

Well, if you don't, stop thinking about it. Sterling Tucker says it's not a local issue. There are lots of local issues to worry about. Like if Walter Washington holds a prayer breakfast at the same time that Richard Nixon is holding a service at the White House, which one does Gilbert Hahn attend? And God?

How about the school dress code? Should Julius Hobson be permitted to come to the School Board meeting in bell-bottoms? Or Marty Swaim in a micro-skirt?

And what about the young military officer who publicly points out de facto segregation in the Cherry Blossom pageant? If the White House no longer wants this man as a military aide, should he be shipped to Vietnam? Or named to the City Council?

And what about Commissioner Washington? If he really isn't interested in running the city, is he permitted by law to let Thomas Fletcher, Julian Dugas and Chief Layton do it?

And what about the street car tracks that D. C. Transit won't tear up? If Congress refuses to give us money to build a subway, couldn't we run the Metro on them?

And what about entrance require-

ments for DC policemen? Why can a man be kicked off the force for sneezing but not for calling a citizen nigger?

And jobs? Is it true that the Board of Trade's drive for black employment has finally located a position for Councilman Thompson -- as a judge?

I don't know the answers to these critical questions. I'm just raising them. And if we can't solve our own problems I see no reason to question the military-industrial complex about the ABM. After all, any outfit that can conquer Hamburger Hill, sink a sub, double the cost of a plane without anyone knowing about it, and leave a whole war's supply of nerve gas at the end of the Denver airport runway can't be all bad.

Besides, other communities have problems to worry about, if we solve ours. Like Berkeley, Calif., where it's taken local, county and state police, helicopters spewing tear gas, the National Guard and the governor just to keep people off the grass.

The history of the "People's Park" out there is interesting. A long time ago, the land was lived on by Costanoan Indians. They didn't believe in land ownership. These simple primitives look upon land as being simply under the guardianship of the people who lived there.

Some Catholic missionaries thought that was silly and took the land away from the Indians. Then the Mexican government drew up some papers that said it owned the land.

Then the American army took away the land from the Mexicans and sold it to white settlers. Later, some white men from the University of California bought the land. The houses that were on the land were torn down and a parking lot was built.

Who owns the land now? The Indians? The Mexicans? The University of California? Ronald Reagan? The people?

Law and order can be hell when it gets mixed up with history.

But difficult as it is, we must keep working for the day when our police will be safe from Marion Barry, the Capitol Building will be safe from Quakers, the army will be safe from Sgt. Sanders, and Rep. Rivers will be safe from Rep. Moorehead. I'll give you a status report next month.

-- JOSIAH X. SWAMPOODLE

ABM Cont'd

At month's end it was still uncertain what the Council would now do -- if anything. But at least that body no longer felt as sanguine about doing nothing.

The possibility of Bolling as a site, while it sharpened the issue, did not really change the issue. It just made it more personal.

This was especially true since Bolling has long been sought by city groups as a site for housing. Even as the ABM debate continued last month, plans were being drawn for a massive development of the Anacostia waterfront, drawing into its scope the Anacostia and Bolling fields.

Nationally, the expenditure of billions for the ABM raises the most serious sorts of questions about our sense of

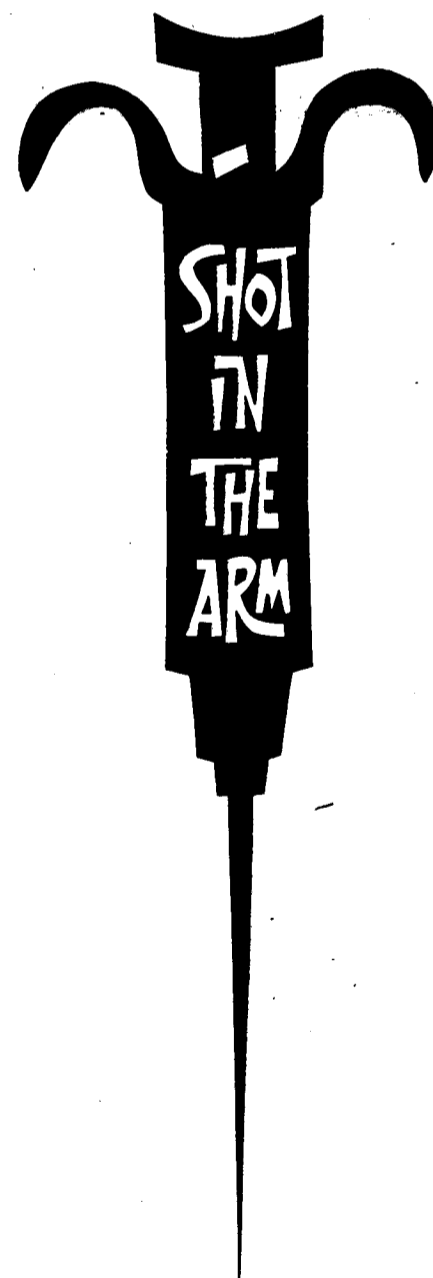
priorities -- our willingness to spend to defend from without and our unwillingness to spend to prevent decay from within. And nowhere could this problem be better symbolized than in a suggestion that a missile site be constructed within city boundaries on a site ideal for housing, while the city's supply of housing dwindles steadily.

There are, of course, other reasons for being apprehensive about the ABM. These have been outlined in grim -- if somewhat tedious and confusing -- detail in other publications. Questions proliferate. Will it work? Will it increase the chance of war? Will it decrease the chance of an arms agreement? What will it really cost? Will it attract missiles or scare them away? Should we trust a military that has led us into a disastrous war, usurped an excessive percentage of our gross national product and shown a mounting willingness to lie to cover its tracks? What will be the environment effects of radiation from the large radars to be used?

These are some of the big questions.

But drive across the South Capitol St. bridge and survey the vast tract along the river. It could be a home for missiles. Or it could be a home for people.

It's really our issue now.



Read the Gazette each month.

Only \$2 a year.

109 8th St. NE
Washington DC 20002

SORRY

about that

THIS month's award for excellence in police-community relations goes to Capt. William C. Trussell of the 3rd Precinct for arresting the guest speaker at the precinct advisory council's monthly meeting for trespassing.

SHORTEST battle of the month: Friendship House board chairman Harry Van Cleve told board members at a meeting last month that future board meetings would be closed to the public. "I shall insist on it as long as I can," said Van Cleve. Approximately 53 minutes late the board voted overwhelmingly to open future board meetings to the public.

FROM UPI: "Stockholders and their representatives from around the world applauded heartily when the chairman of Dow Chemical Co. told them their company makes napalm not for profit but for patriotism."

CHIEF Judge Harold Greene has rapped the police department for the failure of officers to show up at trials when they're supposed to. There's probably a good explanation, though. Like maybe the cops were out telling people how the courts were impeding the fight against crime.

A WASHINGTON Free Press vendor was arrested for selling newspapers without a license. The charges were later dropped. Reason: there's no law requiring a license to sell newspapers.

IT was in the Star: "Often in cases where a suspect is originally charged with assaulting an officer, the U. S. Attorney's office reduces the charges to simple assault, a misdemeanor." In the Marion Barry case, however, Nixon's new U. S. Attorney here, Thomas Flannery, is pushing full charges with a possible sentence of five years.

HERE'S a quote from a District pamphlet put out some months ago:

"The permanent citizens organization for the Model Cities program will be known as the 'Model Cities Commission.'

"The Mayor will delegate to the Commission the responsibility and power to give planning and policy direction to the Model Cities program.

"In exercising its authority, the Commission will be empowered to make all decisions, to adopt all rules and regulations, to initiate and review plans, to approve proposals for all governmentally-funded programs to the extent that such programs are under control of the Mayor or within his sphere of influence and to otherwise act as the legislative body with respect to all matters affecting and concerning the Model Cities program."

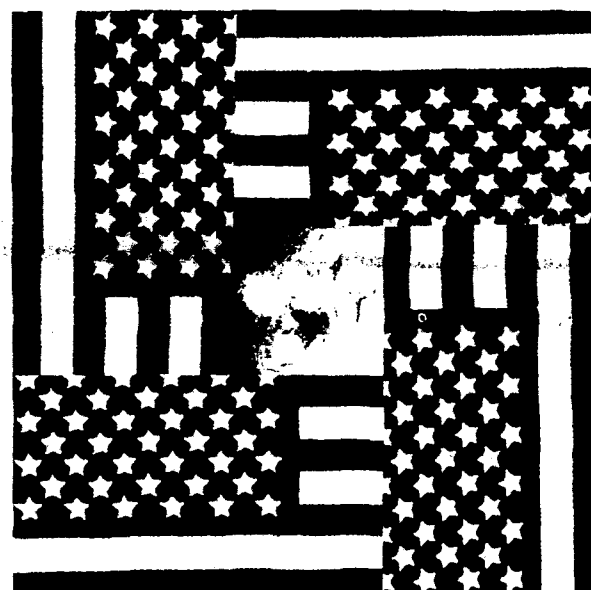
DURING City Council hearings on whether DC Transit's franchise should be revoked, Councilman Yeldell asked DCT vice president Samuel Hatfield whether his company would prefer higher fares or a subsidy. Said Hatfield, "I like them both." Council chairman Hahn grilled Hatfield on the specifics of DCT's generous self-evaluation of its worth. How much of the intangible assets listed by DCT are in the category of 'good will,' asked Hahn. Said Hatfield: "The appraisal is broken down into several categories. I don't specifically recall one called 'good will.'"

Black is



Black is
when you're bringing
your suit home from the
cleaners and you
get busted for
stealing it.

Black is
when they say
"... one nation indivisible
with liberty and justice for
all..." and you wonder
what nation they're
talking about.



Black is
not needing a
psychiatrist to
tell you what's
bugging you.

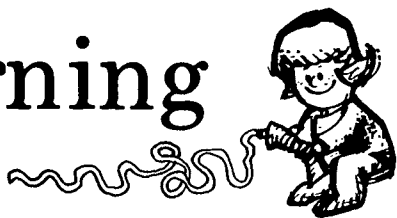


FROM "BLACK IS," a new book by Turner Brown Jr., illustrated by Ann Weisman, just out in a Grove Press paperback at \$1.25. Reprinted by permission.

ONE of the backers of Nixon's charter commission plan is Rep. Joel Broyhill. He says: "I'm not for turning over the federal city for the people who live here to rule it." Apparently, he has reason to believe that Nixon's proposal won't lead to this catastrophe. We suspect that he's right.

FROM the New York Times: "The rate of unemployment increased sharply among Negroes, especially women, while the jobless rate for white workers remained low and unchanged, the government said today in reporting a slowdown in job growth in April." Look who gets to stop inflation.

It's all learning



THOUGH it may be hard to get through your poor splitting head, your child is learning something while banging your favorite pot on the floor. It's also difficult to convince yourself--or your husband upon his arrival home--that all that spaghetti spread about the kitchen with obvious abandon is the wonderful result of a positive thing called "creative play."

But it's all learning experience for the child, say the experts. The trick is to direct the play somewhat so that you, not the child, gets to choose the weapons.

Mrs. Juanita Dennis, coordinator of the John Wesley Pre-School at 14th and Corcoran streets, N. W., a part of the D. C. Model School Division, made some suggestions how to do this at a Circle-on-the-Hill coffee last month. She had children from two to four years of age in mind as she talked, but some of her ideas would work for older children as well.

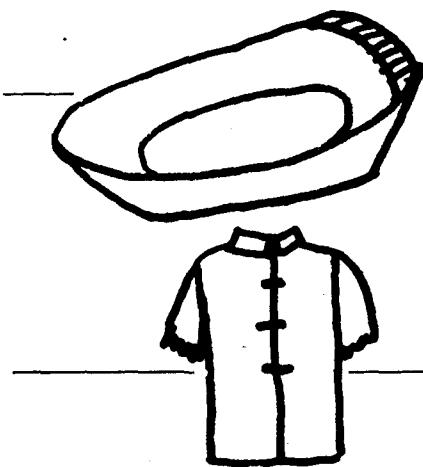
As the child daily tearing at your cupboards knows very well, right in the kitchen there are a wealth of intriguing materials for play. Water play is especially exciting for the two to four year old, says Mrs. Dennis, and she suggests you set him up and let him go. Let him play in the sink or in a dish pan of water with an egg beater, Ivory Snow to make bubbles, straws to blow through, and things that float and sink. If your husband comes home and tells you are out of your mind, says Mrs. Dennis, give him a book to read about creative play.

Children love to help with the cooking. When you go to the store with the child, buy something the child can help make like jello or cookies. Then go home and cook together.

Playing store is a great favorite, and a

playtime store is easy and inexpensive to set up. Save empty food boxes and fill them with crumpled newspaper and then tape them up; they will last longer that way. Save large brown bags so the storekeeper can pack and unpack the boxes.

What if you'd like to get the little ones out of the kitchen? Pasting almost anything that will stick onto a piece of cardboard or heavy paper is an absorbing and sometimes fairly quiet pastime. Wonderful collages can come from sticking scraps of materials, pieces of the Sunday comics,



seeds, acorns, bottle tops, or leaves on paper or cardboard.

It is important to the child that his creation lasts, so give him something which will stick and stay stuck: Elmers glue mixed with a little water will stick almost anything and see that it says there.

You can open the whole world of growing things to your child with one little lima bean. Roll a piece of moistened paper towel and put it in a glass. Then put the bean between the towel and the glass and watch the roots and stem sprout. Keep the paper moist.

Suppose you'd like to suggest that the small beings in your house play

outside. Inexpensive and colorful plastic pails are wonderful for putting things in. Children love to dig. An old automobile tire filled with sand makes a fine sandbox.

Playing with the hose is also wonderful fun, and going barefoot is great, says Mrs. Dennis. Climbing is important and anything you can set up to climb on or slide down will occupy children for a long time.

Some other ideas from Mrs. Dennis:

- Inexpensive hair spray sprayed on children's paintings and collages will preserve them beautifully.

- Drape a piece of flannel over a board; any paper cutouts will stick for a while if rubbed on the back with sandpaper.

Water Play

Use an old baby bath plus spray hose, corks, funnels, measuring cups, spoons, egg beaters, straws (large plastic ones are great), sponges, pill bottles, plastic lemons, spray cans, detergent bottles.

Save outgrown slickers for water play. Buckle up the back and the kids are protected. (Cut the sleeves shorter)

Illustrations from "Beautiful Junk"

- Put different colors of finger paint in muffin tins--it's easy for the child to get at.

- A sheet or blanket over a card table makes a splendid house.

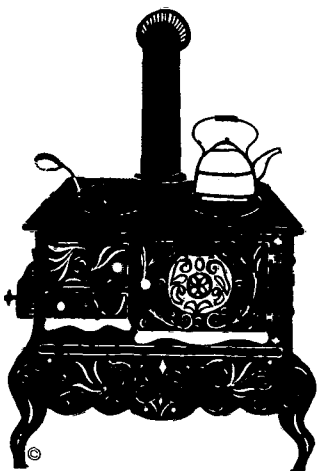
- Bean bags are excellent for young children--an aid to physical development.

- Add Ivory Snow to children's Tempra paints and it will wash out of clothes more easily--especially red.

- Make play dough by combining 4 cups of flour, 1 cup of salt, and 1/2 cup of water. Knead until the dough is plastic. To keep an object your child makes, put it in a turned-off oven which has been preheated to 375 degrees until

Space Helmet.

3 gallon ice cream container painted silver.



Lola's Black Bittersweet 4000 Calorie Cake

1 cup softened butter
2 cups sugar
4 extra large eggs at room temp.

3 cups all purpose flour
1 teaspoon salt
2 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
1/2 teaspoon mace

1 cup whipping cream
2 teaspoons vanilla

1 teaspoon lemon extract
1 cup broken walnuts

about 1 hour or until done. For best results use a woman's intuition, especially in regard to "just enough."

Reparation icing

Use any good (or good sounding) powdered sugar "smooth and glossy" chocolate icing recipe with REAL chocolate provided you ADD ONE SQUARE TOO MANY. Blend well into finished icing one cup of fresh, shredded coconut.

Capitol East Cooks



Lola Singletary

Why is this lady smiling? Because she is about to introduce you to one of the most evil-sounding figure wreckers invented by man.

Lola Singletary, who took over the top position at Community Laundries Inc., 1125 Pennsylvania Ave., S.E., in January, claims she hasn't got much time for cooking these days. Anyone who knows her knows she prefers the heat of community action to the heat of the kitchen. "But I do have this cake . . .," she says.

This recipe is printed just as she gave it to the Gazette, so this paper is not to be blamed for the "just enough" phrases which drive the Editor's Wife wild when she reads them in other people's recipes. "This cake just isn't for beginners," says Lola. At least not for those without the proper amount of woman's intuition.

It is offered with an obvious note of caution to calorie counters: serve this one only to others.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Blend butter and sugar real good. Add eggs, blending in one at a time, just enough. Sift dry ingredients once. Add 1/3 of dry mixture to butter, sugar and egg mixture and blend just enough. Combine cream and vanilla. Add 1/2 of this liquid to the batter and blend just enough. Add second 1/3 of dry ingredients and blend just enough. Add balance of liquid mixture and blend just enough. Add balance of dry mixture and blend just enough. Add lemon extract and walnuts and blend just enough. Bake in greased, floured tube pan for



THE EDITOR'S WIFE

WHAT can children possibly make of it all? We no longer have the passive children of the television set; we have children of the picket line. One Capitol East mother reports a semantic problem which never would have occurred in another age. Since she always takes along a bag lunch for herself and the children when she marches, her children make no distinction between 'picnic' and 'picket'.

And another mother heard her child chanting "No BM" at the recent effort to get a hearing from the City Council on the proposed Washington ABM installation. Apparently the two-year-old considered the whole thing an anti-toilet training demonstration and dutifully withheld his need to use the facilities until late that evening.

Louise Alexander has some heavy beads she bought while in the Peace Corps in Nigeria. She has tried to string them herself with varying degrees of disaster and would like to know where she could have this done for her. Any ideas?

You don't have to go far to take your child on a real ship. Bonnie Stern found her young loved to visit the Navy Yard (entrance at 8th and M, S.E.) where children can visit the U. S. S. Torsk, a submarine, any day of the week except Friday and the third weekend of the month when it is used for reserve training. You must call OX 3-2559 for an appointment 48 hours in advance because of security requirements.

While you are at the Navy Yard, you can also make a close inspection of tanks, guns, and a deep sea diving vehicle outside the Naval War Museum.

Bonnie also found great records in the children's section of the Southeast Library--poetry by Langston Hughes, records in basic rhythm, and many excellent recordings by Folkways records. She reports a particular favorite of hers was the Pete Seeger Children's Concert on the Columbia label.

She also recommends turning on Channel 26, WETA, at 5 P.M. daily for an exceptional children's program called Mr. Rogers Neighborhood.

Lydia Finkelstein says if you need to borrow a punch bowl for a party, you can do so with a \$10 deposit at the Emporium, 305 Pennsylvania Ave., S.E.

Check your evergreens. Do the stems

Summer fashions on the Hill



PHOTOS BY ROLAND L. FREEMAN



BRENNER couture fashions like the one at left are a specialty of the house at Perelucci of Capitol Hill which opened at 202 7th St. SE last fall. Shoppers at Perelucci make their selections from the designs of David Crystal, Adele Martin, Anne Fogarty, Oscar de la Renta, Towncliff, and Dominique amid the lovely French decor of this peaceful 7th Street shop.



Louise Gray, right, welcomes customers to her Fashion Gallery at 307 7th St. SE in one of her dajhekis at the Restoration Society House Tour while artist Nancy Newman, responsible for the psychedelic sidewalk art, works outside. Mrs. Gray will fashion dresses to order, but you can also find ready-made items of her design.

of your holly, pyracantha, box or other evergreens have small white shell-like growths on the lower and inner branches? Addie Krizek says these are oyster shell scales which suck the juices from the bush and can kill it in time. Addie has noticed quite a bit of it in Capitol East, even on some trees, and for the sake of a more beautiful neighborhood has sometimes found herself knocking on doors to point it out. She'd rather not alert the whole neighborhood that way, however, and asked the Gazette to pass along this information.

The local newspaper garden sections tell you to spray this infestation while it is young and soft at specified days in May. America's Garden Book by James and Louise Bush-Brown suggests malathion or nicotine sulfate. But Addie has learned this doesn't always get it all and just decided to pick it all off. She found out that the Botanical Garden at the foot of Capitol Hill

doesn't trust only the spray either--they wash the scales of the branches.

This one is from my mother who came to visit for a while. To iron top of a sleeve on a suit jacket without a sleeve board, just stuff a turkish towel up into it until it is smooth and hold the jacket in your hand while you run the tip of your iron over it.

The Smithsonian Institution's National Collection of Fine Arts at 8th and F Streets, N.W., has just opened a touchable, climbable children's art gallery. Children will climb into the gallery by a circle to find sculpture which they can relate to by rearranging in some cases, feeling, and climbing into. The Smithsonian wants to take away the idea of many children that a Museum is a scary place. You can dial 737-8811 for a recorded announcement of events and exhibits.

scheduled by the Smithsonian.

My sense of guilt concerning my self-appointed role as bad puns editor for my husband has increased with the number of people who used his Nitty Gritty Gang Bang as their joke of the month.

So I now offer you the rejected heading for what is becoming the Gazette Women's Section. This section, reflecting the more retiring nature of his wife, will be somewhat more free of the serious problems and sometimes inflammatory incantations of the good editor himself. It was agreed that the antique "Feminine Angle" and, heaven help us, "Kathy's Korner" just didn't have it so he respectfully submitted--OUT OF THE FIRE AND INTO THE FRYING PAN.

Well, maybe it is better than Family Life. I'm such a square.

CALL 543-5850 mornings TO ADD YOUR 2 CENTS WORTH.

Capitol Hill Action Group

Housing testimony

(Here are excerpts from testimony given last month by CHAG before the City Council housing hearings. The statement was made by Jane Hardin):

ALTHOUGH the solution to the city's housing problems will obviously require millions of dollars, there are some important actions that the City Council can take that do not require great amounts of additional money.

We ask that the city make available any property it obtains to NCHA for scattered site housing or private non-profit housing corporations.

We ask that the city set aside 1 per cent of its budget for a revolving fund to provide seed money for low-income housing projects. We also ask that the city government press for legislative action to free the unclaimed deposits in banks and savings and loan associations for use in such a fund.

We ask that the amount of money NCHA is authorized to spend per unit be increased so that it can obtain properties for scattered site housing in this neighborhood.

SCHOOLS Cont'd

from page 5

The previous budgeting system began with requests from the various academic departments in the downtown office of the Department of Education. These requests were compiled into the department budget. Last year this budget was submitted to the Board of Education two days before it was to adopt it.

This year the process is beginning at the individual school level. The requests turned in by the schools will be submitted to review committees made up in part by members of the public suggested by the ward representative. These review committees hopefully will justify publicly to each school what they have cut, says Mrs. Swaim. "That's the whole idea--to get conflicts and justifications out in the open."

Mrs. Swaim said she would consult with Eastern High School and with each of the junior high schools serving ward 6 to be certain that she understood their priorities. She said she would study the elementary school budgets on file with the budget office in an effort to determine the budget emphasis desired by those schools.

The Board will hold public hearings on the budget in June.

The group did agree it has several problems in common it wished Mrs. Swaim to investigate:

. Now that Title I funds are no longer available for Ward 6 schools receiving them in the past, how will resulting inequities be resolved?

. Who controls the special teachers who operate out of the downtown central office in such areas as science, math, and reading?

. How can the individual schools get a listing priority of innovative programs which have been tried successfully in the Model School Division?

We ask that the increase in property taxes on rehabilitated housing be spread over a five-year period and not applied in full the first year. We think that this can be done through the tax assessor's office and does not require legislative action.

We urge that the city undertake a thorough reform of the various building codes. Many of the present code regulations are out-of-date and by adding unnecessary costs to rehabilitation and construction discourage low-income housing efforts. We ask that while the present codes are in operation, the city government adopt a general policy of waiving unnecessary regulations for non-profit housing corporations. One example of how the city government can facilitate rehabilitation can be cited from neighborhood experience. The Housing Development Corporation, which was rehabilitating houses on Park Street, applied for permission to use plastic piping, which is much cheaper and easier to install than the copper piping required by the code. The Department of Licenses and Inspections after determining the adequacy of plastic, granted the waiver. We also ask that the city suspend action on all but the most serious code violations during the time between the purchase of property by a non-profit corporation and the completion of rehabilitation.

Community Improvement Corp.

Dress code

(Following a walkout by teachers at Eliot Jr. High School last month, the CIC conducted a survey of student attitudes towards the school's dress code --one of the points of contention between teachers and students. The survey found that the students favored a greatly liberalized dress code. Here is CIC's analysis and recommendations concerning the survey):

THE Community Improvement Corporation's Education Team believes that the conflict over dress code is symptomatic of deeper and more complex social issues. Certainly Eliot's dress code which dates to 1931 requiring boys to wear coats and ties and girls to wear only skirts needs to be brought into tune with the twentieth century. As one parent complained at Eliot's PTA, the kind of clothes that some would want the students to wear simply can't be bought in today's stores. A larger number of persons, both parents and students, have complained that they don't have the money to buy the kind of clothes that some would want.

The survey demonstrates that as a whole the students have shown a great deal of common sense about how they should dress at school. Perhaps the standard of simple "common sense", as decided by a joint (elected) student-administration panel, would be the best dress code. It is an impossible task to spell out all the different arti-

cles of clothing, and all the different situations in which this or that may or may not be worn.

A far more significant issue, however, is the demand of Eliot's student body for a role in the everyday decisions being made about their school, not just the dress code. Serious tension exists between four factions at Eliot: students, parents, teachers and administrators. While conducting this survey, CIC's Education Team witnessed the most extreme kind of verbal abuse by students of teachers. At other times a student and a CIC staffer would be talking and a teacher would come up and attempt to join in the conversation. The student would say to the teacher "I'm not talking to you." After school fights between teachers and students are common. It is not surprising that teachers will walk out (and removing what limited influence they have in the classroom give rise to further disruptions).

A solution lies in the parents. While they too must learn to talk with and not simply at students, their more frequent presence in the school, experience has shown, does lend a sobering influence on student-teacher behavior during school hours.

While much remains to be examined at Eliot Jr. High (a future role for CIC), one fundamental is certain. Before teachers, parents, and students can talk with one another, students must have a voice.

Capitol East Housing Council

The other house tour

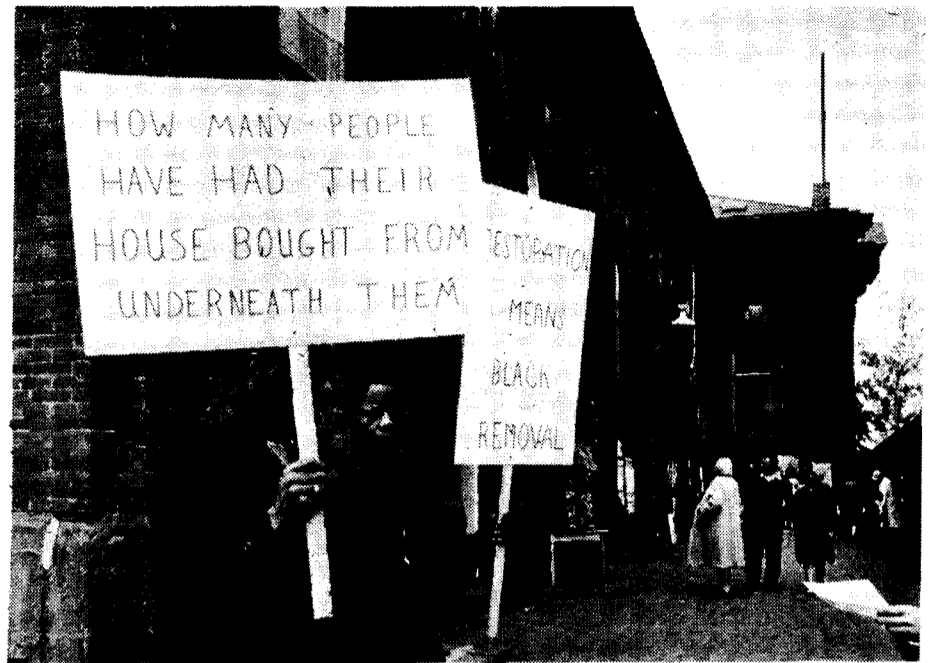


Photo by Roland L. Freeman

WHILE the Capitol Hill Restoration Society was holding its annual house and garden tour, the Capitol East Housing Council was holding its own tour -- through slum properties on Capitol Hill. While the number of persons going on this tour was small, those who did found plenty of reminders that despite what real estate dealers would have people believe, all isn't carriage lamps and azaleas on Capitol Hill. For those who didn't take the slum housing tour, there were pickets -- like the ones above -- they point out the community's problems.

the FEDERAL CITY COLLEGE

Childbirth Class

THE Community Education Program of the Federal City College will be holding classes in childbirth using the psycho-prophylactic or Lamaze methods during the month of June. The instructor is Mrs. Pamela Bescher, an accredited teacher in this field.

The classes will take place on Monday and Friday evenings from June 6 through June 30 in Room 254 of the College's building at 425 2nd NW. The fee for registration is \$16.00 per person or couple.

Due dates for women participating in the class must be roughly between mid July and mid August.

For more information, contact K. Trainor at 347-1644 or 582-2905 or write to her c/o 815 Mt. Vernon Place NW, Washington DC 20001.

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About the Bulletin Board

THE "Community Bulletin Board" is the section of the Gazette where individuals and community groups and agencies can air their news and views in their own words. Opinions expressed are those of the person or groups preparing the articles and not necessarily those of the Gazette. Articles should be typed double-spaced and submitted prior to the 20th of the month. Please keep articles shorter than 1 1/2 pages. The Gazette will publish as many items as space permits. Mail to the Gazette, 109 8th St. NE, Washington DC 20002.

Pam Brooke: weaver

Marcia Feldman



PAM Brooke's apartment on A Street Northeast is decorated with her finds from junk yards and secondhand shops, a fluffy white Samoyed puppy and, in the kitchen, a six-foot floor loom. Her narrow hall is hung with great hanks of thick, brightly colored wool. In her bookcase, technical books on weaving, with diagrams that seem to come from a computer programming text, stand next to novels and books of literary criticism.

Wall hangings here and there and a shaggy red-and-black rug on the living room floor attest to the weaving skill she has developed in little over a year. When she left Washington last spring, heading for Mexico by way of the American Southwest, Pam knew little about crafts in general and almost nothing about weaving in particular. "I had seen work by one weaver that was like nothing I'd ever encountered. It was like sculpture with all these earth elements coming out of the string. I can't explain why that excited me so. But I also felt that what I was doing at the time--writing children's radio shows--was irrelevant. I felt I had no way to influence events, so I went looking for something I could influence. When you learn a craft, you learn to make a utilitarian object in any form you choose. You can influence something."

In New Mexico, a center for creators of fine American crafts, she saw so many ways of working with her hands that "by the time I reached Mexico, my notebook was crammed and so was I." She went to San Miguel de

Photo by Roland L. Freeman

Allende ("the Williamsburg of Mexico," she says) and studied weaving for several weeks at its academy of crafts. "Actually my instructor was in Texas most of the time, so I had to learn by asking everyone else 'What is this?' and 'What is that?' When I came back to Washington, I began to study at The Silver Shuttle."

Starting the warp

A piece of weaving, Pam explained, begins as a design worked out on graph paper. Width and length must be calculated in order to allot enough thread for the warp. The next big problem is stringing the warp lengthwise on the loom. Although the warp may be several yards long and generally is composed of hundreds of fine, individual threads, constant, uniform tension must be maintained on each thread. A warping wheel or frame is used for this purpose. From the wheel, the warp is removed to the loom by crocheting the strands in large loops, using the arms as hooks. "You're finally completely covered with thread," Pam said. "Then you have to get it on to the loom without tangling the threads or losing the tension. At this point, many beginning weavers abandon the craft,"

she laughed. "Of course you can have a professional weaver string the loom. I did at first. This is only the second warp I've strung."

The process of stringing a loom is further complicated by the fact that patterns may be created by both weft (cross thread) and warp (lengthwise thread). Each thread goes through a harness connected to a pedal, which the weaver operates much as an organist does. The threads may be strung one after another or may be looped in apparently endless variations. Because each loom is built to order, the weaver can specify the number of pedals she desires and the corresponding number of harness sets. Pam's loom has six pedals but really complicated looms may have thirty-two. "You find that little old ladies who are weavers turn into little gods or dictators," she said, "but after you see the complicated machines they manipulate, you can understand why."

Weaving a catalyst

Learning to weave has been a kind of catalyst for Pam, bringing personal satisfaction in other parts of her life. When she returned from Mexico, she renewed her contract with the Washington Board of Education and again be-



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A CLASS in traditional drumming. This class, being run by the members of the Eastern High School Freedom Annex Drummers. This is the drum group formed from the regular Drama class at the Freedom School.

A CLASS in traditional dancing. This class is being run by the members of the Freedom School Traditional Dance Troupe.

A BLACK History course, which will be run by students who are enrolled in the 9 to 3 courses at the Annex.

A SELF-DEFENSE course. This course is run on two levels, the first level is for beginners and the second level for the more advanced student of the art.

THE FREEDOM School Black Arts Movement is now looking for persons interested in working to develop a new art force for the Black community.

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gan to create shows broadcast to the elementary schools over WAMU-FM. She finds this work is now more satisfying. "When I went to Mexico, I was discouraged about the relevance of what I was doing. I thought it made no impact, could work no social change. Now I think differently." She is, in fact, quite enthusiastic about the programs on which she has worked. "We're trying to loosen up both teachers and pupils by creating an atmosphere in which they can communicate," she said. "One of the devices we're using is sound shows in which a number of sounds are strung together around a central idea such as 'If you were a lamp post, this is what you might hear.' The teacher asks the kids questions like 'Would you like to be a lamp post and stay in one place all the time?' There's no possibility of an answer being wrong or right. The whole idea is to get the kids talking. And they do respond, even the shyest ones, teachers have told me. That's the most exciting part."

During the school vacation this summer, Pam plans to experiment

GAZETTE ADS PULL

with dimension and texture in her weaving. Although her original idea was to make useful objects, she has done very little flat weaving of the sort that can be used for table linens damask. Her weaving is becoming more and more three-dimensional and more like sculpture through such devices as weaving thin stalks of bamboo or wood slats from an old-fashioned shade instead of weaving thread or wool. Even her rug is a shaggy rya, with knotted tufts of wool forming a thick, patterned pile. Many of her wall hangings and the black-and-red rug will be displayed at the Neighbors Incorporated show in Northwest Washington at the end of June. Her wall hangings sell for under \$100. She will accept commissions for rugs and estimates that a four-by-five-foot rug would cost about \$300.

Sixth grade play

Sally Crowell

THE first performance of the Peabody Players' Midsummer Night's Dream at the Back Alley Theatre opened with oo's and ah's and closed with cheers of approval. As the Shakespearean fantasy unfolded, the audience, composed of students of neighboring schools, was drawn into the magic of the playwright and listened anxiously to what their thesbian peers were saying.

The Back Alley's magenta, yellow and gauze-draped set offered a fine illusive back drop before which director Jean Alexander's actors weaved their plot. The costumes, designed and executed by Judy Reynolds, were colorful and appropriate and only with the costuming of the fairies did they fall short of enhancing the ethereal quality of the play. Music and soft lighting completed the illusion of the magic of this midsummer's night and a full house of youngsters waited eagerly.

The players were well rehearsed and they moved about the stage with certainty. They projected their lines well and, in general, the actors were well suited to their parts. An exceptionally good comic performance was given by Frederick Wood as the character Puck. Isaish McCall, who played the King of the Fairies, Oberon, also did a fine job. Susan Howard was quite convincing as Hermia, and Cynthia Holden was good a Helena.

The sixth graders at Peabody became particularly interested in Shakespeare after visiting the Folger Library with the school's librarian and drama teacher, Jean Alexander.

It was quite obvious that the venture was a success and that the young audience thoroughly enjoyed it. We look forward to more plays being presented by Peabody and other Cap East schools. Bravo!

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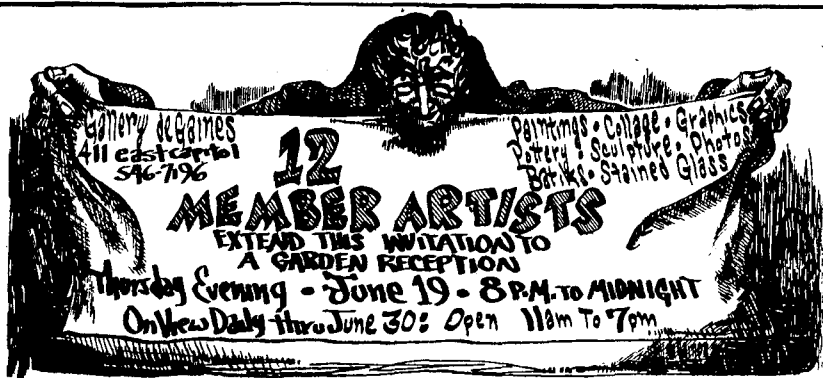
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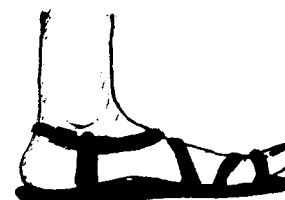
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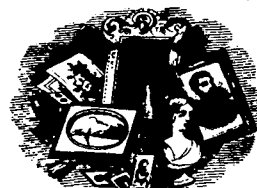
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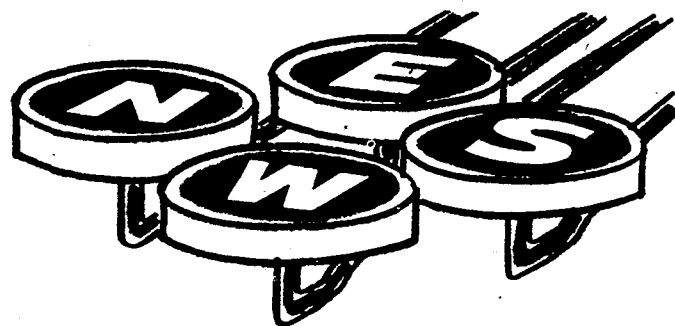
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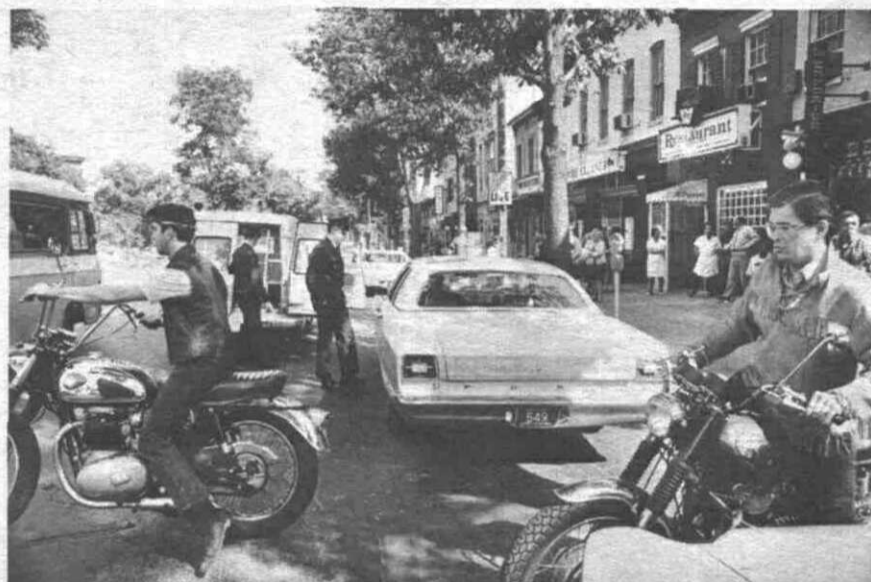
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PHOTOS BY ROLAND L. FREEMAN



ABOVE: Our photo editor, Roland Freeman, was wandering down Penna. Ave. last month when he saw eight members of the Hill's Angels lined up on the sidewalk. Naturally, he took a picture. Naturally, someone adverse to anything unusual called the police at about the same time. The Fifth Precinct, which enjoys a good joke as much as any metropolitan police unit, naturally arrived with exceptional dispatch. Naturally, for an event such as this, five police vehicles responded. And naturally, the motorcyclists -- who were assembled for a publicity shot in behalf of a local merchant -- quickly departed. LEFT: A Capitol East scene. BELOW: Tourists wait for a bus in SW to take them home.





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..... Zip.....
Gift card to read from.....

Name.....
Address.....
..... Zip.....
Gift card to read from.....

ABM.

THE highway mafia.

COLONIALISM in the District.

RACISM in the District.

THE need for a shake-up in the Police Dept.

UNEMPLOYMENT.

BAD housing.

ETC.

ETC.

WHILE much of the local press lowers its voice on these and similar issues, the Capitol East Gazette is raising its.

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